



TOWN OF BRIDGEVILLE

# THE JOURNAL

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OCT/NOV 2007

## From the President's Desk

The Commissioners and Staff of the Town of Bridgeville would like to take this opportunity to extend to the residents of our Town a very Merry Christmas, a Happy Chanukah, a Happy Kwanzaa and a Happy New Year. May the coming year bring the promise of Christmas to our great country and hopefully, peace on earth and good will to all.

The Inaugural Bridgeville Charity Golf Open was an enormous success. Through the generosity of 15 tournament sponsors, forty-five tee sponsors and 136 golfers, the Bridgeville Lions Foundation, the Bridgeville Kiwanis Foundation and the Bridgeville Senior Center each received \$8,500 for their community work. We look forward to next year's tournament and hope the results are even better. Thank you all again.

Mr. Rick Tull of our audit firm Lank, Johnson and Tull reported at our December meeting on the state of the Town's finances. I can proudly report that the audit report was excellent and Bridgeville's finances continue to be the envy of many governments in Delaware. Our escrow accounts presently have over \$840,000 in reserve. These rainy day funds will enable us to face any economic downturn that comes our way, thus avoiding a raise in taxes.

The Commission has established five election districts within our growing Town. No longer will Commissioners be elected at large, but beginning with the March 2008 Election, each of the five Commissioners will represent a geographic district within Bridgeville. You will be informed before the March election as to the district in which you live.

The Town had been exploring ways to reduce our current workmen's compensation costs. The Delaware League of Local Governments has formed the DeLea Founder Insurance Trust. It is a self-funded municipal insurance group which is intended to offer municipalities and counties in Delaware an alternative to the spiraling costs of worker compensation. After careful evaluation and discussion with our Town Solicitor, we have opted not to participate. Our decision was based on two major considerations: (1) Cost and (2) Liability. As to cost, our present premium is \$31,600, but under this new program it would rise to \$38,556. Liability played an even greater role in our decision. Presently we control our own destiny. If we join this insurance pool we would be responsible for the costs incurred by all members of the pool. We felt that this exposed Bridgeville to enormous financial risks. We will continue to monitor this program as it goes forward and if at a future date these concerns can be eliminated, we will reconsider our present position.

At our December meeting the Commission agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Town of Greenwood. We believe that this will solve our wastewater problems with Greenwood and will lead to a new contract between both Towns that will better serve the citizens of both communities.

On a personal note, Joann and I want to again thank the many people who continue to ask about our son Joe. He is stationed in Atlanta, Georgia and has been promoted to the rank of Warrant Officer I. We pray that all of our sons and daughters, husbands and wives return to America sooner rather than later and that they will all return to us safely.

Joe Conaway

## Minutes from the Monthly Commission Meetings

October 8, 2007

September Traffic Arrests: 292 Criminal Arrests: 45

Seven building permits were issued in September bringing revenue of \$2,085.00. Six certificates of occupancy for new homes were issued.

Three untagged or inoperable vehicles were turned over to the Bridgeville Police Department for investigation.

Two water meters were installed at Heritage Shores and two water/sewer inspections were completed. Meters installed now total 489.

Test results show that Bridgeville water quality for lead and copper is within the limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency.

A meeting was held between the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control and the Towns of Bridgeville, Seaford and Laurel to discuss upcoming wastewater treatment plant discharge permit parameters, limiting nitrogen and phosphorus into Chesapeake Bay.

Signs were installed throughout Town concerning the prohibition of skateboarding on Town streets, etc. Skateboarding is allowed in Town-owned alleyways.

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control conducted the annual compliance inspection of the wastewater treatment plant, noting no major deficiencies.

The Commissioners presented a yearly \$1,000 donation to the Bridgeville Historical Society.

Clean-Up Day was held on September 29th, with about 14 tons of garbage removed. The Commissioners thank M-T Trash and their employees for an outstanding job.

The Commissioners voted to condemn the old dry cleaning building at 40 Church Street due to its dilapidated condition.

Appointments were made to the Election Board as follows: Mrs. Betty Coakley, Mrs. Betty Ann Hardesty, Mr. William Hartzell & Mr. John Shockley.

The Commissioners adopted a Proclamation declaring November 14th as World Diabetes Day. The Delaware League of Local Governments urged passage of the Proclamation and encourages all citizens to help raise awareness of this serious, expensive and rapidly increasing disease.

The November Commission meeting was changed to November 5th.

November 5, 2007

October Traffic Arrests: 230 Criminal Arrests: 20

Seven building permits were issued in October bringing revenue of \$314.00. Two certificates of occupancy for new homes were issued.

Three untagged or inoperable vehicles were turned over to the Bridgeville Police Department for investigation.

Corrosion Control started painting the interior of the 125,000 gallon water storage tower located behind Town Hall, as a part of the ten year tank maintenance contract.

Plans are progressing to extend water/sewer lines to the newly annexed Royal Farms store on Routes 13 and 404.

A new rotating biological contactor is being repaired at the wastewater treatment plant and should be back in service shortly.

The wastewater treatment plant received its annual laboratory proficiency test results. All parameters tested and reported were within the acceptable limits.

Town Manager Walls reported that the spray irrigation project on Apple Tree Road is on or ahead of schedule due to good weather.

Clogged storm drains were cleaned as needed.

As reported at the Sussex County Today and Tomorrow Conference, the new Bridgeville development, Lindenmere, is preparing to build 84 townhouses and 146 single family homes early next year on the Federalsburg Rd. These are a part of the Town's moderately-priced housing program.

The Town will review the curbside recycling program again in the future; however, current interest falls far short of the 75% household participation needed.

The Delaware Emergency Management Agency held a level 3 Incident Command training program at Town Hall to prepare Town employees for weather-related, hazardous spill or terrorist emergencies in Town.

The Delaware Department of Transportation is conducting a traffic study on Railroad Ave. and Wilson Farm Rd. to determine usage and the best traffic flow through the area.

The Commissioners set the yearly date for Caroling in the Park as the Friday night before the Christmas in Bridgeville Craft Show.

## Town Manager's Report

Caroling in the Park was held on Friday, November 30th. Our thanks to those participating and their donation of canned goods which will go to help those who are in need of assistance. Also, our appreciation to the Bridgeville Fire Department for giving Santa a ride to the Park. The children in attendance were happy to see Santa and to have the opportunity to share with him their wishes for Christmas.

The Commissioners advertised for bids regarding the collection of Town trash. Five bids were received, with the low bid being awarded to M-T Trash, the current Town trash collector. On behalf of the Commissioners, we thank interested parties for submitting a bid. Our thanks are also extended to M-T Trash for the outstanding service they provide to the residents.

Several Commissioners and I attended the installation of Winnie Martin as the new Bridgeville Postmaster. It was

very evident that Winnie is well respected by her peers and fellow workers. Her father was also in attendance and there was no doubt of his pride in his daughter. Sincere congratulations to Winnie on her accomplishment.

The Commissioners recognized Sergeant Burke Parker as the Police Officer of the Quarter for the 3rd quarter of 2007 at their November 5th monthly meeting. Officer Parker began his career as a Patrolman and has worked his way through the ranks to Corporal and now Sergeant. He is a fine officer and we appreciate his efforts on the Town's behalf.

I sincerely wish for each one of you a healthy, peaceful and joyous 2008! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Bonnie Walls

## Town News

### Red Tags

#### Water/Sewer Accounts

The Town is changing its policy regarding past due water/sewer accounts. Red Tag reminders will no longer be placed on the doors of properties with overdue water bills.

When an account enters the 60-90 day overdue column, the homeowner (and tenant, if applicable) will receive a letter in the mail regarding the past due account. The letter will include a deadline to pay the account in full or make payment arrangements. If the Town does not hear from the homeowner/tenant by the deadline, the water will be shut off with no additional notification. A \$25.00 re-connect charge and full payment of all past due charges on the account must be paid to turn the water on in the household.

**Please Keep your Account Current  
Pay your Bill on Time!**

**The Commissioners and Employees  
of the Town of Bridgeville  
wish all our Residents**

***Merry Christmas  
Happy New Year!***

**It is a Pleasure to Serve You**

### Caution!

#### New Traffic Signs

Please take special note of the new traffic signs posted when entering and leaving Bridgeville on Railroad Ave. and Wilson Farm Rd.

The Delaware Department of Transportation has installed new signage regarding stopping and yielding. Avoid an accident - slow down and learn the new signs!





## **PLEASE TAKE SPECIAL NOTE**

# **BRIDGEVILLE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS**

The Town of Bridgeville has joined many other municipalities in establishing Election Districts for Commission Elections. Each property within Town limits is assigned to one of 5 districts. Registered voters will be able to vote on a roster of candidates who live within their district and will represent that district as a Bridgeville Commissioner. Commission Seats up for Election this year are currently held by:

Earl Greason - District 1

Margaret Sipple - District 2

Patricia Correll - District 3

All Commission seats are two-year terms. Commissioners Joseph Conaway (District 4) and William Jefferson (District 5) will be up for election in March, 2009.

Every resident of the Town age eighteen or older has one vote, provided he/she has registered on the "Books of Registered Voters" of the Town.

Absentee voting will be available: Please contact Town Hall at 337-7135 for details.

**COMMISSION ELECTION**  
**SATURDAY**  
**MARCH 1, 2008**

**Voting Hours**  
**12:00 PM - 7:00 PM**  
**Town Hall**

**Districts Voting**  
**in this Election**  
**Districts #1, #2 & #3**

**Residents will be notified by mail of their**  
**Election District Assignments**  
**in January, 2008**

**Candidate**  
**Filing Deadline**  
**February 1, 2008**

(Must live within  
Election District  
he/she will represent)

**Voter**  
**Registration**  
Monday - Friday  
8:30 AM - 4:30 PM  
**DEADLINE**  
**February 20, 2008**

## Town News

### Snow Reminders

#### **Shoveling**

Snow and/or ice must be removed within twenty-four (24) hours after snow/ice has ceased to fall, gather or accumulate, according to Town Code. The owner or occupant of any building or lot abutting a public sidewalk is responsible for the clearing of accumulated snow/ice.



#### **Plowing /Salting of Roads**

Residents having access to their yard from an alleyway shall park their vehicles accordingly. If a driveway does not exist, all residents with an odd number street address must move all vehicle(s) to the even-numbered side of the street as soon as snow/ice begins to fall. When the even-numbered side has been cleared of snow/ice, residents must move all vehicles to the odd-numbered side of the street. This will allow the Town to clear the streets completely and provide space to park vehicles without the need for residents to shovel their respective parking space.

Do not shovel snow/ice into the street. With everyone's cooperation, the snow/ice removal will be accomplished efficiently.



COMMISSIONERS OF BRIDGEVILLE

### Postal News

In order for your letter carrier to deliver your mail promptly and provide you with uninterrupted services, residents must clear snow/ice from walkways and the approach to the mailbox.



### Sex Offender List Update

The following is a current, complete list of sex offenders residing within Bridgeville Town limits. Please direct any questions to the Bridgeville Police Department at 337-8302.

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Risk Level</u>
Christopher L.	Corkell	Moderate
Terrence	Teagle	Moderate
(currently in prison)		

## New Faces on the Block

### **Welcome to our new Homeowners!**

#### Elliott Drive:

Elizabeth Degan

#### Gadwall Circle:

Bernice Wiesman

#### Ruddy Duck Drive:

The David McElhineys

#### Canvasback Circle:

The Thomas Connars

The Donald Deschenes

#### Emily's Pintail Drive:

K. Hutchins & D. Dey

The Lawrence Tullys

#### Widgeon Way:

The Morris Greenes

Saul Reinitz

The Ronald Roysters

#### Cedar Street:

Robert Lewis

#### Whistling Duck Drive:

Susan Hutson

The Robert McCanns

The Robert Millmans

The Gilbert Posts

The Sidney Steins

## Community Activities

### Friends of the Bridgeville Library

Membership continues to grow along with the enthusiasm for a new library. The Friends of the Bridgeville Library are now incorporated in the State of Delaware. An application for nonprofit status (501) (c) (3) has been filed with the Internal Revenue.

The Friends participated in "Christmas in Bridgeville." The opportunity to buy a book for the library to "Honor Someone Special" was offered to attendees. By contributing to the program, a book of your choice is purchased by the Library, a bookplate is placed in the front of the book with the name of your special honoree and an acknowledgement card is sent. Participation forms are available at the Library.

Additional fundraisers are being planned. On Thursday, January 17th, Grotto Pizza is offering Community Night. If you bring a voucher (available at the library), 20% of your bill that night will be donated to the Friends of the Library. Mark your calendar for the Art Auction on Friday, April 18th at Jimmy's Catering Hall. It will be an exciting event - details will follow.

Outreach letters have been sent to local businesses and corporations requesting their support. Letters have also been sent to various foundations that help to support libraries enabling the Friends to apply for grant monies.

It is an exciting time for the Bridgeville Public Library! Make a New Year's resolution to join the Friends and volunteer your time in support of the Bridgeville Library.

Best wishes from all for a very Happy New Year

### Story Time

#### At the Library

Story Time takes place on Tuesday mornings at the Bridgeville Public Library.

**10:00 AM**

2-4 Year Olds

**11:00 AM**

4-6 Year Olds

Introduce your children to the wonderful world of books at an early age!

### Kiwanis Club of Bridgeville News

#### • Apple Scrapple Home Decorating Contest

The Kiwanis Club of Bridgeville again sponsored the Apple Scrapple Home Decorating Contest on October 12th. The Kiwanis Club desires to express its thanks and appreciation to all who participated in the contest. Friends' and neighbors' support added greatly to the "spirit" of the Apple Scrapple Festival. We consider everyone who showed community spirit to be a winner; however, we do want to acknowledge the following homeowners as contest winners:

Dawn & John Tomeski  
413 Laws St.

Diane Chaney  
400 Cedar St.

Sharon & Kenneth McDowell  
408 Laws St.

#### • Christmas Street Lights

On Saturday, November 17th, a group of Key Club members and Kiwanis Club of Bridgeville members faithfully installed the Bridgeville Christmas Street Lights along 5 community streets. The Kiwanians purchased these 6 foot lights new in 1985, and after 20 years of service, the lights were completely refurbished in 2005. We trust these lights will be enjoyed by Bridgeville residents for many years to come.

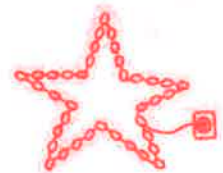
#### • Christmas Home Decorating Contest

The Kiwanis Club of Bridgeville will sponsor the Christmas Home Decorating Contest again this year. The contest is open to all homes within Bridgeville Town limits. No registration is required to participate. Judging will take place between Christmas Day and New Year's. The Kiwanians hope many will continue to participate, as this special event adds to the festive beauty of our community during this season and certainly enhances the Christmas Spirit. If anyone has questions concerning the contest, please call Sonny Hardesty at 337-7070.

#### • Annual Membership Dinner

On Monday night November 5th, the Kiwanis Club of Bridgeville hosted five prospective members at their annual membership dinner. Men and women from the Bridgeville, Greenwood and Farmington area were treated to a pork roast dinner and fellowship at the Union United Methodist Church in Bridgeville.

Kiwanis International is a thriving organization of service-minded men and women who respond to the unique needs of their communities and address worldwide issues by "Serving the Children of the World." For more information, please contact Kevin Carson at 337-8881 or Sonny Hardesty at 337-7070.





*The following letter was penned by Mrs. Ellen Russell of South Main Street, Bridgeville*

To the Community, in every sense of the word, of Bridgeville ~

As many of you know, my husband, Jimmy Russell, was killed in October, the result of a tragic accident at our farm outside of town. Jimmy was a lifelong resident of Bridgeville; except for his years of service in the United States Air Force, and a few short months after our marriage, he never lived anywhere else. When we found our wonderful old house on Main Street, he brought me to Bridgeville, and I, too, fell in love with this town. Ironically, he died on the same farm on which he had been born, and, probably, had he had a choice, this is what he would have wanted.

Through the years, we have watched our beloved town grow; with growth comes change, some of it good, and some of it less so...where corn and soybeans used to grow, we see houses...bought and lived in by people who have come to Bridgeville hoping to live as we have lived for so many years; we sincerely hope that, in doing this, they don't change what they have moved here to experience! We have bemoaned the loss of family businesses on Market Street, unable to compete with the chain food stores and pharmacies; my grandson and I can no longer run into the "drugstore" for a snack on our walk to our wonderful little park, where we like to sit and talk, and watch the fish swim in the pond...change is inevitable, and we have learned to accept the fact that "big brother" truly is watching over us, taking away some of the quirky little things that made Bridgeville residents individuals...Jimmy and I often wondered if, were Jack Lewis sitting on a street corner today, with his easel and paints beside him, working on a new masterpiece, he would be arrested for loitering!!

I can just see every one of Bridgeville's long-time residents smiling now, remembering "what was"...well, I can truly attest to the fact that what "WAS", still "IS"...in the days following Jimmy's accident, I have experienced a sense of "community" that goes beyond description...never, in all my years of living in this town, have I seen a group of people come together like Bridgeville has for me and our family; as individuals, and as members of organizations...the fire department, made up of men and women, who, in many cases, had grown up with my husband, gone to school with him, played football with him, joined the Air Force with him, and returned to Bridgeville to raise families, as he did...the police forces, both town and state, who, in addition to taking care of the traffic situations during the visitation and funeral services, offered their heartfelt condolences, and have promised to keep watch...the ladies in the fire department's ladies' auxiliary, busy with their own lives, children, and grandchildren, who took the time to prepare and serve a wonderful feast for everyone after the funeral...the hundreds of people who have made donations to the fire company and our wonderful library in memory of Jimmy...my list could, and does, go on and on...this, my friends, is what makes Bridgeville "BRIDGEVILLE"...those of us who "live here" ARE "home now"!!

Let us cherish what we have; our families, our friends, and our town...take an evening to ride (or, even better, WALK!) around town to look at the holiday decorations; stop to say "hello" to someone raking leaves, offer to help string the lights on a porch or a tree...sit at the park with a grandchild, and remember a loved one...these are some of the things that make living in a town like ours "special", and Bridgeville surely is...

Heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you; truly, "my cup runneth over".....

Ellen Russell

## Community Activities

### Lions/Lioness Club News

- Christmas Party for the Blind

The Lions and Lioness members participated in the county-wide Christmas Party for the Blind held in Millsboro. Both clubs donated food baskets and gift certificates for the occasion.

- Local Christmas Giving

Both the Lions and Lioness are busy preparing for their Christmas giving to the less fortunate in our community. This will include food baskets, clothes, and of course, toys for the children. Last year the Lions and Lioness served 24 families and a total of 81 children. We hope to make Christmas a little brighter for even more families this year.

- Merry Christmas Wish

The Lions and Lioness wish to thank those of you who have helped us during the past year to aid those less fortunate. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to everyone!

- Membership

For anyone interested in becoming a member of the Lions or Lioness Clubs, please contact:

Lions Ron Hatfield at 875-0609

Lioness Hilda Donnelly at 629-4114



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**JOB PRINTING SINCE 1951**

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## Important Dates to Remember

**December 24 Christmas Eve**  
Town Offices/Library Closed

**Dec 24-Jan 1 Woodbridge Schools Closed**

**25 Christmas Day**  
Town Offices / Library Closed

**Kiwanis Christmas Home Decorating  
Contest Judging this Week**

**26 Library Closed**

**29 Saturday Trash Pick-up**

**31 New Year's Eve**  
Town Offices/Library Closed

**January 1 New Year's Day**  
Town Offices/Library Closed

**5 Saturday Trash Pick-up**

**14 Monthly Commission Meeting**  
Town Hall, 7 PM

**15-17 Monthly Street Cleaning**

**16 Library Winter Reading Program Ends**

**17 Friends of the Library "Community Night"**  
at Grotto Pizza

**18 Woodbridge - No School for Students**

**21 Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday**  
Town Offices/Library &  
Woodbridge Schools Closed

**February 1 Candidate Filing Deadline**  
Bridgeville Municipal Elections

**Woodbridge - No School for Students**

**11 Monthly Commission Meeting**  
Town Hall, 7 PM

**12-14 Monthly Street Cleaning**

**15 Woodbridge - No School for Students**

**18 Presidents Day**  
Town Offices/Library &  
Woodbridge Schools Closed

### TOWN OF BRIDGEVILLE

"The Journal"  
101 N. Main Street  
Bridgeville, Delaware 19933

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